



Naval Medical Research and Development

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News Releases

NMRC Participation in the NATO COMEDS Visit to the National Capital Region

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Researchers and representatives from the Naval Medical Research Center (NMRC) highlighted current projects and products during the NATO Committee of the Chiefs of Military Medical Services (COMEDS) visit. Ft. Detrick in Frederick, Maryland, hosted COMEDS, as part of a three day visit to the Washington, D.C. area.

SILVER SPRING, Md. – Researchers and representatives from the Naval Medical Research Center (NMRC) highlighted current projects and products during the NATO Committee of the Chiefs of Military Medical Services (COMEDS) visit. Ft. Detrick in Frederick, Maryland, hosted COMEDS, as part of a three day visit to the Washington, D.C. area. The Ft. Detrick day included tours and medical displays from the Navy, Army and Air Force, June 1.

In the military medical display area, COMEDS attendees had the opportunity to view the NMRC mobile laboratory and speak to the staff members about the lab's function and capabilities. The NMRC mobile laboratory allows for the rapid deployment of military personnel to the field and other austere locations to quickly conduct confirmatory assays to determine whether biological agents are present. A mobile laboratory weighs approximately 1,000 pounds and only needs three people to operate. It holds supplies sufficient to process about 150 samples using both PCR and ELISA-based testing. It also includes protective gear for personnel, a generator, a freezer, field lighting and a tent, making it a standalone capability.

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Researchers from the NMRC Operational and Undersea Medicine Directorate presented posters highlighting studies focusing on interventions to improve performance and reduce injury in deployed personnel in undersea occupations. The group also presented information related to the physiologic and pulmonary changes during aeromedical evacuation and enroute care.

NMRC’s Advanced Medical Development (AMD) Program Office provided a hands-on display of a mobile oxygen ventilation and suction capability that provides a completely integrated intensive care unit suitable for expeditionary use. In addition, AMD displayed examples of products in various stages of development including an enhanced *Plasmodium falciparum* sporozoite malaria vaccine vial, a fatigue-based countermeasures software tool, and a solvent detergent spray-dried plasma product as well as a noise reducing stethoscope and pneumatic tourniquet.

The ADM Program Office manages and coordinates the business and scientific research of advanced biomedical equipment and their development through the project life cycle.

According to the NATO web site, COMEDS, created in 1994, is NATO’s senior body on military health matters. The committee works to improve coordination, standardization and interoperability in the medical field and supports the exchange of information between NATO and partner countries.

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Registry: Every Month is the Month of
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